

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims, please cancel claims 24, 25, 29 and 30 and amend claims 14-17, 20, 23, 26 and 28 as follows:

1-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A process for delivering a large nucleic acid to a cell, comprising:

- a) inserting the cargo into a reverse micelle, wherein the reverse micelle comprises a plurality of neutral, negative, or zwitterionic amphipathic molecules containing reactive functional groups;[.]
- b) polymerizing two or more of the amphipathic molecules thereby forming a polymerized reverse micelle; and,
- c) contacting the cell with the polymerized reverse micelle.

15. (currently amended) The process of claim 14 wherein at least one of the amphipathic molecules contains a biologically labile bond.

16. (currently amended) The process of claim 15 wherein cleavage of the biologically labile bond disrupts the reverse micelle.

17. (currently amended) The process of claim 15 wherein the biologically labile bonds bond consists of a disulfide bond.

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) The process of claim 15 wherein the biologically labile bonds bond consists of a silicon - heteroatom bond.

21. (canceled)

22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) The process of claim 15 wherein the biologically labile bonds bond consists of an amide constructed from a compound having a substructure of succinic anhydride.

24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A reverse micelle containing a molecule nucleic acid formed by the process comprising:

- a) inserting the molecule nucleic acid into a negatively-charged, zwitterionic, or neutral reverse micelle, wherein the reverse micelle comprises a plurality of amphipathic compounds containing reactive functional groups capable of participating in a polymerization reaction; and

- b) polymerizing two or more of the amphipathic compounds.
- 27. (previously presented) The complex of claim 26 wherein at least one of the amphipathic molecules contains a biologically labile bond.
- 28. (currently amended) The complex of claim 27 wherein cleaving the disulfide biologically labile bond disrupts the reverse micelle.
- 29. (canceled)
- 30. (canceled)
- 31. (previously presented) The complex of claim 30 wherein the nucleic acid is compacted.